



**The Arena Event of 2015  
SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour**

**Jack Thompson AM Lisa McCune Lee Kernaghan OAM John Schumann**

**A musical experience commemorating 100 years of ANZAC pride**

Newcastle Entertainment Centre, 21 August  
Brisbane Entertainment Centre, 28 August  
WIN Entertainment Centre, 2 September  
Allphones Arena, 4 September  
TRECC, 8 September  
Rod Laver Arena, 11 September  
Adelaide Entertainment Centre, 15 September  
Perth Arena, 18 September

**Special Offer for Defence Staff & Personnel  
Save up to \$40.00 on Silver ticket prices**

**Sale begins: Wednesday 18 March  
Sale Ends: Friday 20 March at 4pm**

**Please click here to visit our website for further information in your state.**

A star-studded line-up of Australia's finest musical and performing talents will take to the stage to tell the stories of Australians at war, in SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour. This unforgettable event commemorates 100 years of ANZAC pride from the ANZAC's landing at Gallipoli in 1915 through to the deserts of the war in Afghanistan.

**Screen legend Jack Thompson, multi-Gold Logie winner Lisa McCune**, country music superstar **Lee Kernaghan** OAM and Redgum's **John Schumann** head the stellar cast that will take us on a musical and theatrical journey based on the true and personal stories of those serving abroad and their loved ones at home.

**SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour** is a compelling stage event for every Australian and New Zealander to experience. It is a theatrical production based on the human side of our history at war as told by the men and women who were there. These remarkable tales, sourced from the archives of personal letters, diaries and stories held at the Australian War Memorial, chronicle the entire spectrum of the experience of Australians at war over the past 100 years - from the trenches of the Western Front to the bombing of Darwin, the hardships of the Kokoda trail to the courage of Long Tan, and all the way to the dust of Uruzgan Province in Afghanistan.

Each powerful and inspiring story in this unique and emotional production is brought to life through stirring songs, narrated tales and powerful screen images. These are the true stories of real people who through their words are also representing thousands of others who were there with them sharing the same experiences and feeling the same emotions.

**SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour** has been inspired by the songs from Lee Kernaghan's new album of the same name. This remarkable 16 song recording also includes some very special guest artists performing songs written by **Kernaghan, Colin Buchanan** and producer **Garth Porter**.

The all-star cast of actors and singers, supported by an 11-piece band and vocal group, will perform all the songs from the Spirit of the ANZACS album including Song for Grace, To The Top Of The Hill, When the First Bombs Fell, Being Your Sons in addition to some other Australian classic songs.

Utilising the latest state-of-the-art production techniques, a giant screen behind the stage will present a visual backdrop to the songs and stories through a dramatic range of images, showing the real-life drama of an extraordinary history of courage, bravery, hope and love by the men and women who served their nation in the line of duty.

2008's Australian of the Year **Lee Kernaghan** and his producer and co-writer **Garth Porter** spent 18 months working with the team at the Australian War Memorial, including AWM Director **Dr Brendan Nelson**, to uncover the extraordinary ANZAC stories across many years that were then lovingly adapted to music.

**Kernaghan** said of the arena spectacular, "**SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour** is unlike anything I've done before. The gravity of these new songs cuts the air like the smoke of a bushfire, a constant reminder of all the courage, blood, love and loss that's wrapped up in every word. It's a musical monument."

**Dr Brendan Nelson, Director of the Australian War Memorial**, said, "Every nation has its story. This is ours. From the bloody Gallipoli landing to the dusty deserts of Afghanistan, precious war letters held at the Australian War Memorial have inspired this moving tribute from one of Australia's great storytellers, Lee Kernaghan."

**SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour** goes to the heart of who we are, offering a special tribute to those who gave their lives, those who have served, those that have returned unseen, and those who still today step bravely into the unknown to serve our country.

The title song from Kernaghan's new album Spirit of the ANZACS is a remarkable all-star recording where Lee is joined by Guy Sebastian, Jessica Mauboy, Shannon Noll, Jon Stevens, Sheppard and Megan Washington in what is a soul stirring fundraising anthem inspired by the speech by former Prime Minister Paul Keating at the entombment of The Unknown Australian Soldier at the Australian War Memorial on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1993. The Artists, the Songwriters, the ABC, record labels and publishers will donate their proceeds from the song "Spirit of the Anzacs" to Soldier On and Legacy.

Soldier On and Legacy charities will also share a donation of \$3.00 per ticket sold to the **Spirit Of The Anzacs – The Arena Tour**.

**SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS – The Arena Tour** is the arena event of 2015, and certain to galvanize the nation.